REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-6 are pending. Claim 2 is canceled in this amendment. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are amended to address outstanding claim objections and § 112 rejections. Claim 3 is also amended to address antecedent basis issues.

The specification is amended to address grammatical errors, idiomatic errors and typographical errors.

The Abstract is replaced with one that is in narrative form, describes the disclosure sufficiently and meets the 150 word requirement. Support for the new Abstract can be found in the specification at least on page 1, lines 7-9; page 5, lines 16-20; page 6, lines 5-7 and 10-12; and page 12, lines 5-18.

Accordingly, no new matter is added.

Specification Objection

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract of the disclosure because it is too long. The Abstract is replaced with a new version to conform to the word limitation and to present the subject matter in a narrative form. The replacement Abstract sufficiently describes the disclosure to allow readers to determine if the full specification should be considered.

The specification is amended to address grammatical errors, idiomatic errors and typographical errors.

Therefore, the Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection to the Abstract.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claim 3 for clarity and readability in that the limitation of "and the value of a calculation expression...is in the range of 1.02 to 1.60" is more suitable in lines 13-16 of the claim rather than its current location. In the amendments to the claims, claim 3 is amended to reflect the Examiner's suggestion.

Therefore, the Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection to claim 3.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner cited the use of the word "when" in the claims as being indefinite and unclear. In the amendments to the claims, the word "when" is replaced with the word "where" in claims 1, 3 and 5. Claim 2 is canceled. Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1.

The Examiner cited the limitations in both claims 2 and 3 of "the first length L1", "the second length L2" and "the herringbone-shaped turn-back part" as lacking antecedent basis. In the amendments to the claims, claim 2 is canceled and claim 3 is amended to provide proper form to the cited limitations.

Therefore, the Applicants request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection to claims 1 and 3-6.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over International Publication No. WO02/04825 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,033,118 ("Asai et al."). Claim 2 is canceled in the amendments to the claims. Therefore, the rejection to claim 2 is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1 and 3-6 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In the amendments to the claims, claims 1, 3 and 5 are amended to address the §112 rejections presented in this Office Action. Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 3-6 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Insofar as the Examiner's objections and rejections were fully addressed, the present application is in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance of all pending claims is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jan. 16, 200/B

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